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Dated: February 27, 2003

Signature:

Kathryn L. Nash
(Kathryn L. Nash)

3736
B-1103
Docket No.: 65937-0003
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Michael E. Miller, et al

Application No.: 09/864,031

Group Art Unit: 3736

Filed: May 23, 2001

Examiner: C. Marmor II

For: BIOPSY APPARATUS

AMENDMENT

Box Non-Fee Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 29, 2002 (Paper No. 10), please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraphs 083, 097, 102 and 127 of the specification as set forth immediately below in clean form. Additionally, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.121(b)(iii), all paragraphs amended herein are set forth in a marked up version on the sheets attached to this amendment.

B

[083] The handpiece 12 can include individual covers for closing the access opening 81 in the distal housing 70 and the access openings 95 in the support housing 93. Those covers can support tubing for engagement with the pilot ports 40 and 61. Alternatively and most preferably, a single cover 13 as depicted in FIG. 4, is provided for completely enclosing the entire handpiece. The distal end 71 of the housing 70 can define a number of engagement notches 115 equally spaced around the perimeter of the distal end. The handpiece cover 13 can then include a like number of equally distributed tangs 117 projecting inwardly from the inner surface 118.

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